

Young Entomologist Serves His Community

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If the future looks brighter these days for a group of underprivileged boys and girls in East Harlem, it is due in no small measure to the interest and efforts of Arlin Clifford Hooks of the Museum's custodial services division. Mr. Hooks spends most of his waking hours in uniform; when he's not wearing his AMNH blues, he's usually dressed in the khaki shirt and trousers, fatigue cap, and high boots of an organization known as the Pan American Cadet Corps, the purpose of which is to give young people a start toward becoming proud, ambitious, and conscientious citizens. PACC, which Mr. Hooks helped to found several years ago, has approximately 125 members between the ages of 9 and 20. Its program has a strong military flavor because its leaders believe that strict discipline is a deeply felt, although often unspoken, need of youngsters. But, interestingly, the organization is the outgrowth of a science and nature club and Mr. Hooks is, by avocation, an entomologist. (Ed. note: He was one of many youngsters who have had the advantage of membership in the Junior Entomological Society.)

As a little boy, Cliff Hooks visited the Museum constantly. As a teen-ager in the mid-1950's, he was one of the regulars at the Natural Science Center. His initial interest in insects was further developed through the help and encouragement of Miss Alice Gray of the Entomology Department.

In the PACC Mr. Hooks serves as Administrative and Educational Officer. In the latter capacity, he maintains close liaison with the teachers and other personnel of the schools attended by Corps members, and provides remedial instruction for youngsters who need it. Under his direction, the Corp's educational program continues to emphasize science and the serious study of nature. Recently the organization acquired a new headquarters building in which there is ample room to expand the science program.

Many New Yorkers tend to feel that the pressing social problems of this huge city are beyond the sphere of influence of any one person. Mr. Hooks—like several other AMNHers who devote a great deal of time to voluntary service to the community—simply doesn't believe it.

Erratum

Re: Jour. N. Y. Ent. Soc., 73(3) p. 146, 1965

Last four lines of page 146 were incorrectly transposed. They should read:

It appears to be true that in the abdomen, the transverse nerve always passes anterior to the spiracle, and the dorsal nerve posterior to the spiracle.

It is possible that some seemingly contradictory results in the physiological studies of the alary muscles may be influenced by the absence or presence of transverse . . .